

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A ceramic honeycomb structure body which is formed by binding a plurality of porous honeycomb segments with an adhesive layer interposed between each neighboring two of the plurality of porous honeycomb ~~segments,~~the adhesive layer being adhered to a first adhesion surface of one of the neighboring two porous honeycomb segments, and being adhered to a second adhesion surface of the other of the neighboring two porous honeycomb segments,

wherein a first plurality of protrusion portions fixed to at least one of the first and second adhesion surfaces respectively of each neighboring two of the honeycomb segments are embedded in the adhesive layer, the two neighboring honeycomb segments being opposite to each other with the adhesive layer interposed ~~therebetween.~~therebetween, and

the first plurality of protrusion portions are not in contact with the other of the first and second adhesion surfaces.

2. (Currently Amended) The ceramic honeycomb structure body according to claim 1,

wherein the first plurality of protrusion portions are formed of any one of one material selected out of inorganic materials and organic materials, a combination of at least two materials selected out of the inorganic materials and the organic materials.

3. (Currently Amended) The ceramic honeycomb structure body according to claim 1,

wherein the first plurality of protrusion portions are formed in a way that the protrusion portions are 0.1mm to 3.0mm in thickness, and in a way that a total of a thickness

of one of the protrusion portions and a thickness of a part of the adhesive layer corresponding to a part of the ~~adhesion surface~~, at least one of the first and second adhesion surfaces, to which ~~one of the protrusion portions is fixed~~, are fixed, is 0.2mm to 4.0mm.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a ceramic honeycomb structure body, which is formed by binding a plurality of porous honeycomb segments with an adhesive layer interposed between each neighboring two of the plurality of porous honeycomb segments, ~~comprising: the adhesive layer being adhered to a first adhesion surface of one of the neighboring two porous honeycomb segments, and being adhered to a second adhesion surface of the other of the neighboring two porous honeycomb segments,~~ comprising:

applying an adhesive to ~~an adhesion surface~~ one of the first and second adhesion surfaces to which a first plurality of protrusion portions are fixed, which is one of ~~opposing the opposing first and second~~ adhesion surfaces respectively of each neighboring two of the honeycomb segments adhered to each other, in a way that the protrusion portions are embedded in the adhesive, and thereby forming the adhesive layer; ~~and layer, the first plurality of protrusion portions are not in contact with the other of the first and second adhesion surfaces; and~~

thereafter pressing the two honeycomb segments against each other, with the adhesive layer interposed therebetween, in a direction which makes a gap between the opposing adhesion surfaces narrower, and thereby adhering the two honeycomb segments to each other.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the ceramic honeycomb structure body according to claim 4,

wherein the protrusion portions are fixed to one of the opposing adhesion first and second surfaces, and the other of the first and second adhesion ~~surfaces~~ surfaces is formed

so as to be flat, and

wherein the adhesive layer is formed on only the ~~former~~ one of the first and second adhesion ~~surface, surfaces,~~ and thereafter the pressing is performed.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing the ceramic honeycomb structure body according to claim 4,

wherein ~~the protrusion~~ a second plurality of protrusion portions are fixed to ~~each of the other~~ the opposing first and second adhesion surfaces, and

wherein the adhesive layer is formed on each of the first and second adhesion surfaces, and thereafter the pressing is performed.

7. (Currently Amended) The ceramic honeycomb structure body according to claim 2,

wherein the first plurality of protrusion portions are formed in a way that the protrusion portions are 0.1mm to 3.0mm in thickness, and in a way that a total of a thickness of one of the protrusion portions and a thickness of a part of the adhesive layer corresponding to a part of the at least one of the first and second adhesion ~~surface, surfaces~~ to which ~~one of~~ the protrusion portions ~~is fixed, are fixed,~~ is 0.2mm to 4.0mm.

8. (New) The ceramic honeycomb structure body according to claim 1,

wherein a second plurality of protrusion portions fixed to the other of the first and second adhesion surfaces respectively of each neighboring two of the honeycomb segments are embedded in the adhesive layer, the second plurality of protrusion portions are not in contact with the at least one of the first and second adhesion surfaces.

9. (New) The method of manufacturing the ceramic honeycomb structure body according to claim 6, wherein the second plurality of protrusion portions are not in contact with the at least one of the first and second adhesion surfaces.